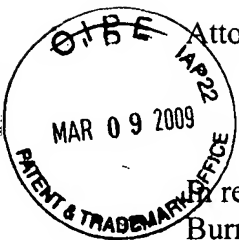


IFW



Attorney Docket No. 077119-0026

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Burns Phillips and Larry Griffith

Application No.: 10/613,646

Confirmation No.: 4622

Filed On: July 2, 2003

Examiner: Jan Christop L. Merene

Art Unit: 3733

For: SURGICAL RETRACTOR CLAMP
CONNECTABLE TO AN ARM OF THE
RETRACTOR

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 5, 2008

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Reply to the non-final Office Action mailed December 5, 2008. This Reply is being submitted within the three month shortened statutory time period. Applicants graciously thank the Examiner for the time spent discussing the claims and the prior art during the interview held with Applicants' counsel on February 23, 2009.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Reconsideration of the referenced application, including all pending claims, is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks set forth below.